

The Advocate

N. R. P. A.

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LOOK

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COL. TOMLINSON'S DISTRESS.

It is extremely sad. His lamentations sound like the wail of a lost soul. His heart is broken. The representatives of the people consider other questions of more importance to their constituents than resubmission. They do not believe that the absence of the saloon is the cause of all the financial depression, the depreciation in values and the business disasters that afflict the country. Their constituents will agree with them upon this question. It is tiresome, very tiresome indeed to see the whiskey question constantly pushed to the front in Kansas, and at such a time as this. When conservative banks and business houses are failing every day, and when the homes of the people are being absorbed by mortgage syndicates, when the citizens of a large part of the state are even now appealing to the charitable for food and for seed, when thousands of honest, industrious and sober laboring men in every city and town in the state are vainly asking for work, where no work is to be found, this everlasting cry of resubmission as a panacea for all our ills is not only sickening, but it is an absolute insult to the intelligence of the people who so well understand the causes that have been instrumental in bringing these conditions upon the country. The mind that can grasp no subject superior to the whiskey question and can champion no higher cause than that of the saloon is poorly equipped for a teacher of the people and a leader of public sentiment in a state that is the acknowledged pioneer in the advanced civilization of the age.

THE WHIG AND REPUBLICAN SPEAKERS OF THE NATIONAL HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

During the existence of the Whig party of this nation, John Bell of Tennessee, John White of Kentucky, and Robert C. Winthrop of Massachusetts, were speakers of the House, elected by the Whigs, and they held office unitedly for the term of five years or a little less. Mr. Bell was elected Speaker during the administration of President Jackson; Mr. White was Speaker during the first one-half of the Tyler administration, and Mr. Winthrop ended his one term when President Taylor was inaugurated. The Whig control of the House ended on March 4, 1849, and the national administration of Taylor and Fillmore, from 1849 to 1853, inclusive, was ill-fated and quite ill-starred.

The Republicans have had speakers of the House for twenty-two years; Nathaniel P. Banks of Massachusetts, whose one term ended on March 4, 1859, when James Buchanan was inaugurated president. The one term of William Remington of New Jersey ended on March 4, 1861, when Abraham Lincoln became president. He was followed by Galusha A. Grow of Pennsylvania, for two years; Schuyler Colfax of Indiana, six years, and James G. Blaine of Maine, six years, these continuous fourteen years of Republican speakers ending on March 4, 1875. Since then Joseph Warren Keifer of Ohio has had one term, which ended on March 4, 1883, and Thomas B. Reed of Maine, ends his one term on March 4, 1891.

History gives us Winthrop, the last Whig Speaker, Fillmore the last Whig president, both ending their careers as Democrats. Reed, the last Republican Speaker; Benjamin Harrison the last Republican president.

In 1853 when Millard Fillmore retired from the presidency and the Whig party was virtually ended, there were sixteen free states, to wit: California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin. These states now have 186 Representatives in Congress. The Harrison administration has 128 Representatives, which gives them 70 majority. In the Fifty-second congress this administration will have 70 Representatives, placing them in a minority of 46—a loss of 116 in 16 states in two years. If the three states of Kansas, Minnesota and Nebraska be included, the showing would be an administration majority of 85 in the Fifty-first Congress; in the Fifty-second Congress the administration is in a minority of 55, thus showing in 201 Representatives an administration loss of 140!

Hon. Thomas Brackett Reed, in his his rulings as Speaker of the House, has reversed the precedents of 100 years, and the following proambles and resolutions offered by Hon. Scott Wike, of the Twelfth Illinois district on the 23rd of February, 1891, speak for themselves:

Whereas, The frequent falsifications of the Journal of the proceedings of the House of Rep-

resentatives of the Fifty-first Congress by the arbitrary action of the Speaker, and notably by his unwarrantable action on the 30th day of February, instant, in the matter of the count of Messrs. Turner of Georgia, Clements, Crisp, Blanchard, Wilson of Missouri, Whitehead, Phillips, Geary, Oates and others, members of the House, as present and not voting, for the purpose of making the record show an apparent quorum to do business, when, in fact, there was not a quorum as required by the constitution of the United States, and when, in fact, such members were not present, nor within the hall of the House at the time; and

Whereas, In that connection the arbitrary and tyrannical action of the presiding officer of the House and his political associates on the floor on the 31st day of the same month in refusing to allow or entertain a motion for the purpose of correcting the falsification so made in the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day so as to make it conform to the facts in the premises as they were clearly established and made to appear; and

Whereas, These arbitrary, unlawful and unconstitutional acts were done in pursuance of a plan concocted by the leaders of a party just overthrown by an overwhelming majority of the people at the polls, and in the closing hours of their power, to install for life into new federal judicial offices then and there being created for that purpose a number of the repudiated and defeated candidates of the party at that election, in defiance of and against the will of a large majority of the voters of the country—north and south as well as east and west—all of these unlawful and unworthy official acts make it apparent and patent that the injury threatened to the liberties of the people and to constitutional free government by the arbitrary and unlawful action of the chair may become calamitous and irreparable, and inasmuch as there seems to be no compulsory restraining power in existence except through the action of the majority in the respective bodies, which are usually in political sympathy with such presiding officer; therefore be it

Resolved, That the committee on the judiciary be and they are hereby instructed to report to the House forthwith a joint resolution for the action of Congress, submitting for ratification an amendment to the constitution, providing a plan for the impeachment and removal from office, with suitable penalties, or for the trial, either upon indictment or information in the courts of the district of Columbia or the supreme court of the United States, of the speaker or presiding officer of the House of Representatives or the president or presiding officer of the Senate who shall wilfully falsify or falsely make up, alter or change or cause or permit the same to be done by the clerk of the body over which the party offending may preside, or by any other person, the Journal of its proceedings, either by counting and entering therein as present, or causing the same to be done, the name or names of any member or members who shall not in fact be present at the time for the purpose of making a quorum or otherwise, or by any other means or for any other purpose whatsoever. The said amendment to the constitution shall provide that such offense shall be a high crime and misdemeanor, with such penalties by fine and imprisonment, removal from office and disqualification for holding office, as said committee shall deem commensurate with the character of the offense or crime indicated.

Representative Wike was moved to set forth in due official form a moiety of the parliamentary (?) outrages that have been deliberately perpetrated by this last speaker in the national House of Representatives of this "going out old party" who may have a name to live, while itself is dead. With the administration of Benjamin Harrison half gone, and the speaker race of Thomas Reed entirely completed, were it any reason that the plain, common people in the old free states of this great American nation should have so sternly rebuked these political Pharisees whose real god is plutocracy, and who might well declare this resolution:

Resolved, That in view of the necessity for basing for the first principles of Republican government as bequeathed by the fathers, and against the organized schemes of a moneyed aristocracy, the most desolating and oppressive with which the earth was ever cursed or man debased, we will co-operate and be known as unsectional Americans until the contest be terminated in the undying success of the principles of an abiding distributive justice.

We may remember Abraham Lin-

coln in his administration of affairs as a President who sought the highest good of the nation in the interest of justice and righteousness, and we can not forget these solemn utterances of President Thomas Jefferson:

Can the liberties of a nation be ever thought secure when we have removed their only firm bases, a conviction in the minds of the people that their liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that his justice can not sleep forever!

Speaker Reed with his tyrannies have gone.

The old sixteen "free states" from Maine to Iowa, in the going out days of the Whig party, which antedated the present Republican party, and which forty years ago was managed by the slavery propaganda, even as is the Republican party of this day by the organized corporate monopolists in the old and in the new world, have thrown off the oppressive party shackles in 1890 and 1891, even as they did a generation ago.

These sixteen states, with the later children of freedom—Minnesota, Kansas and Nebraska—have 201 Representatives in Congress, and the Republicans having 71 per cent. of them in this Fifty-first Congress, will have 36 per cent. in the Fifty-second Congress. Was ever a national administration in two short years more thoroughly repudiated by any one people?

IT IS VERY FATIGUING.

The Alliance people are not the only ones that cause a feeling of weariness. The other extreme is holding them level. This eternal cant about "capital being timid," and about "driving capital from the state," almost forces one to the feeling that the Alliance men and the men called anarchists have some justice on their side. Must everybody be taxed and regulated by law, but the capitalist be allowed to go free, and to do as he pleases? We hear an almost incessant squall about driving capital out of the state, but not a word of driving out the bone and sinew. If a law is proposed regulating interest on money, and preventing robbery in the shape of usury, the cry goes up that it will drive capital out of the state. If a measure is suggested giving an unfortunate man a little time in which to save his property after the mortgage is foreclosed, we hear the same tune about driving out capital. If a law is recommended taxing mortgages, a shriek goes up that splits the welkin wide open, about driving capital out of the state. The farmer's land, the mechanic's house and lot, the merchant's goods, may be taxed all they will bear, and we hear nothing about driving them out; but propose to compel the hog with money to to bear his share of the public burdens, and it will drive out capital.

A farmer's land is taxed the same whether it is mortgaged or clear of incumbrance. The law requires that money shall be taxed, but money can be hidden and land cannot. But let that capitalist loan that farmer \$2,000, at 8 to 12 per cent. interest his money is in shape where it is in sight. The land is still there and is taxed; but when it is proposed to tax the \$2,000, then the howl comes that it will drive capital out of the state; it will compel the borrower to pay higher interest; it is taxing the same amount double. How is it? The land is still taxed, the same as it was before, and the farmer has to pay it. What becomes of the money? It is invested in a mortgage on the land, and the farmer, besides his taxes, is paying 10 per cent. interest on the money. If the money is in the land, then the farmer is paying more than double tax upon it—he is paying on the land and three times as much more on the money, in the way of interest. No fear of running him out, but you must not run capital out of the state by taxing it.—Troy Chief.

After reading the above we are prepared to forgive Sol. Miller for all his past sins. We will square his account and begin anew. We take great pleasure in commending this brief epistle to the scribes, Pharisees and—others of the Republican party. It contains solid food for reflection.